I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted via the Office electronic filing system in accordance with § 1.6(a)(4).

Dated: September 24, 2009

Electronic Signature for William A. Di Bianca: /William A. Di Bianca/

## EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

Group Art Unit: 3738

Docket No.: SPINE 3.0-437 CIPCIPCIPCIPCIPCON I

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

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Errico et al.

:

Application No.: 10/784,646

: Group Art Unit: 3738

:

Filed: February 23, 2004

: Examiner: B. E.

: Pellegrino

:

For: ARTIFICIAL INTERVERTEBRAL DISC

TRIAL HAVING A CONTROLLABLY

SEPARABLE DISTAL END

## AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.116

MS AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Madam:

In response to the Office Action dated June 24, 2009, finally rejecting claims 1, 3-8, 10, 11, 14-18 and 20, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows: